

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. – 4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an inkjet printhead with a nozzle plate and a first service module removably installed on the printer, comprising:

identifying a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by servicing the printer with the first service module being in an un-worn condition;

providing a second service module with a service function different from the first service module and adapted to address said printhead-related service condition, the second service module removably installable on the printer ~~and with respect to the first service module;~~

removing the first service module from the printer;

installing the second service module in the printer in place of the first service module;

using the second service module, conducting a special printhead-related servicing operation.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
after completion of the special printhead-related servicing operation, removing the second service module from the printer; and

~~install~~ installing the first service module in the printer in place of the second service module.

1 7. (Currently Amended) A method for servicing an inkjet
2 printhead with a nozzle plate and a first service module removably installed on the printer,
3 comprising:

4 identifying a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by servicing
5 the printer with the first service module being in an un-worn condition;

6 providing a second service module with a service function different from the first service
7 module and adapted to address said printhead-related service condition, the second service
8 module removably installable on the printer and ~~with respect to~~ in place of the first service
9 module;

10 providing a set of instructions for using the second service module with the inkjet printer
11 to the printer user, wherein the step of providing a set of instructions includes providing a set of
12 machine readable printer instruction code for loading into the printer.

1 8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the printer is controlled by
2 a host computer, and wherein the step of ~~using~~ providing the set of instructions includes
3 downloading the set of printer instruction code from the host computer.

1 9. – 13. (Cancelled)

1 14. (Currently Amended) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an inkjet
2 printhead with a nozzle plate and a first service module removably installed on the printer,
3 comprising:

4 identifying a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by servicing
5 the printer with the first service module being in an un-worn condition;

6 providing a second service module with a service function different from the first service
7 module and adapted to address said printhead-related service condition, the second service
8 module removably installable on the printer and ~~with respect to~~ in place of the first service
9 module, wherein said printhead-related service condition includes ink on a printhead carriage
10 interconnect, and the second service module includes a brush arranged to clean the interconnect.

1 15. (Currently Amended) A method for servicing an inkjet
2 printhead with a nozzle plate and a first service module removably installed on the printer,
3 comprising:

4 identifying a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by servicing
5 the printer with the first service module being in an un-worn condition;

6 providing a second service module with a service function different from the first service
7 module and adapted to address said printhead-related service condition, the second service
8 module removably installable on the printer and ~~with respect to~~ in place of the first service
9 module, wherein said printhead-related service condition includes vibration or shock incurred
10 during shipment or moving of the printer, and the second service module includes a special
11 capping structure having a range of movement along an axis generally transverse to a nozzle
12 array of the printhead, and a bias structure which urges the capping structure toward and into
13 engagement with the printhead during a capping procedure.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the special capping structure includes
2 a relative hard, non-resilient cap structure which contains the printhead during the capping
3 procedure.

1 17. – 18. (Cancelled)

1 19. (Currently Amended) A method for servicing an inkjet
2 printhead and a removable first service module, comprising:

3 providing a second service module different from the first service module and adapted to
4 address a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by the first service
5 module being in an un-worn condition, the second service module removably installable on the
6 printer and ~~with respect to in place of~~ the first service module;

7 providing a set of instructions for using the second service module with the inkjet printer
8 to the printer user, wherein the step of providing a set of instructions includes providing a set of
9 machine readable printer instruction code for loading into the printer;

10 installing the second service module in the printer;

11 conducting a printhead-related service operation using the second service module.

1 20. (Currently Amended) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an inkjet
2 printhead and a removable first service module, comprising:

3 providing a second service module different from the first service module and adapted to
4 address a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by the first service
5 module being in an un-worn condition, the second service module removably installable on the
6 printer and ~~with respect to in place of~~ the first service module;

7 providing a set of instructions for using the second service module with the inkjet printer
8 to the printer user, wherein the printer is controlled by a host computer, and the step of providing
9 a set of instructions includes downloading the set of printer instruction code from the host
10 computer;

11 installing the second service module in the printer;

12 conducting a printhead-related service operation using the second service module.

1 21. (Canceled)

1 22. (Currently Amended) A method for servicing an inkjet
2 printhead and a removable first service module, comprising:
3 providing a second service module different from the first service module and adapted to
4 address a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by the first service
5 module being in an un-worn condition, the second service module removably installable on the
6 printer and ~~with respect to~~ in place of the first service module;
7 installing the second service module in the printer;
8 conducting a printhead-related service operation using the second service module;
9 after completion of the printhead-related servicing operation, removing the second
10 service module from the printer; and
11 installing the first service module in the printer in place of the second service module.

1 23. – 26. (Cancelled)

1 27. (Currently Amended) A method for servicing an inkjet
2 printhead and a removable first service module, comprising:
3 providing a second service module different from the first service module and adapted to
4 address a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by the first service
5 module being in an un-worn condition, the second service module removably installable on the
6 printer and ~~with respect to~~ in place of the first service module;
7 installing the second service module in the printer;
8 conducting a printhead-related service operation using the second service module;
9 wherein said printhead-related service condition includes ink on a printhead carriage
10 interconnect, and the second service module includes a cleaning element arranged to clean the
11 interconnect during a special cleaning mode with the printhead removed from the carriage.

1 28. – 29. (Cancelled)

1 30. (Currently Amended) ~~A special service module~~ An apparatus for use in an inkjet
2 printing system including an inkjet printhead and a standard service module removably installed
3 in the printing system, the ~~apparatus comprising a~~ special service module configured to be
4 removably installed in the printing system in place of the standard service module to perform a
5 special service function on the printhead which is not performed by the standard service module
6 being in an un-worn condition, the special service module removably installable on the printer
7 and ~~with respect to~~ in place of the standard service module.

1 31. (Previously Presented) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an
2 inkjet printhead with a nozzle plate and a first service module removably installed on the printer,
3 comprising:
4 identifying a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by servicing
5 the printer with the first service module;
6 providing a second service module with a service function different from the first service
7 module and adapted to address said printhead-related service condition;
8 removing the first service module from the printer;
9 installing the second service module in the printer in place of the first service module;
10 using the second service module, conducting a special printhead-related servicing
11 operation;
12 after completion of the special printhead-related servicing operation, removing the
13 second service module from the printer; and
14 installing the first service module in the printer in place of the second service module.

1 32. (Currently Amended) A method for servicing an inkjet
2 printhead with a nozzle plate and a first service module removably installed on the printer,
3 comprising:

4 identifying a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by servicing
5 the printer with the first service module in an ~~un-used~~ un-worn condition, said printhead-related
6 service condition including vibration or shock incurred during shipment or moving of the printer,
7 ~~the second service module including a special capping structure having a range of movement~~
8 ~~along an axis generally transverse to a nozzle array of the printhead, and a bias structure which~~
9 ~~urges the capping structure toward and into engagement with the printhead during a capping~~
10 ~~procedure, and wherein the special capping structure including a relative hard, non-resilient cap~~
11 ~~structure which contacts the printhead during the capping procedure;~~

12 providing a second service module with a service function different from the first service
13 module and adapted to address said printhead-related service condition[[:]],wherein the second
14 service module includes a special capping structure having a range of movement along an axis
15 generally transverse to a nozzle array of the printhead, and a bias structure which urges the
16 capping structure toward and into engagement with the printhead during a capping procedure,
17 and wherein the special capping structure including a relative hard, non-resilient cap structure
18 which contacts the printhead during the capping procedure; and

19 performing the capping procedure with the second service module installed in the printer,
20 and maintaining contact between the non-resilient cap structure and the printhead to prevent a
21 pumping action on the printhead when subjected to vibration and shock.

1 33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein a constant closed
2 volume is maintained between the cap structure and the printhead during the capping procedure.

1 34. – 44. (Cancelled)

1 45. (Currently Amended) An inkjet printing system, comprising:
2 an inkjet printhead;
3 a service area for performing service functions on the printhead;
4 a first service module for removable mounting at the service area to perform service
5 functions on the printhead during a standard printhead service mode;
6 a second service module for removable mounting at the service area in place of the first
7 service module to perform a different service function from that performed by the first service
8 module in an ~~unused~~ un-worn condition on the printhead during a special printhead service
9 mode.

1 46. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 45 further comprising:
2 a printhead carriage for mounting the printhead and arranged for traversing movement
3 along a print area and for moving to the service area;
4 a service carriage for removably mounting the first service module or the second service
5 module.